

F. E. Jackson  
1117 4th Street

# CALIFORNIA GARDEN



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October Excursion Through Exposition  
San Diego County Trees & Shrubs  
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# The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association*


*One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

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No. 4

## Lateness—A Distinguishing Feature

 UITE overawed by the solemnity with which President Connell of the Floral Association suggested that the Garden should be gotten out earlier in the month, we have labored industriously but apparently we are so used to a mid-month publication that it is going to take time to change. We remark thus because we desire all of you to understand we are trying in spite of our own belief that there is just as much reason (in our case much more) for us to come out two weeks after the first of the month as there is excuse for the majority of monthlies issuing two weeks ahead. We were almost pained for we regard it as a distinction, one of our points of difference, and knew that very


few publications issued as hot from the pen as California Garden. However, we are trying and so warn our readers for in our youthful days indulgent parents considering our health delicate let us spend a portion of the morning school hours in bed and when we did arise on occasion and showed up on time the worthy preceptor threw up his hands and calling attention to our early presence declared an earthquake imminent! I relate this because earthquakes have been known in this neck of the woods and there is no record of one where we nearly precipitated the catastrophe. It really seems as if a delayed issuance would be the lesser of the two evils.

## The Park—A Shuffle Board

 S it not time that these recurring shuffles of the Park board should cease? There can be but one real qualification for a seat on that board and that is founded upon the good of the Park. The spectacle of the official heads of Park Commissioners being brought before the council like the head of John the Baptist on a charger is quite painful and apparently some of the council don't regard the dish as appetising. In the immediate future the Park board will face perhaps the greatest problem, certainly the most critical one, in the history of the Park, the adjustment of things at the close

of the Exposition. How can it be intelligently attacked when the personnel of the board is so uncertain. We have good reasons for thinking Mr. Blochman well equipped for the post, but even so this moving picture display is undignified if nothing worse.

This seems a good place to say our word of commendation of the report of the committee upon the future of the fair grounds. It is marked by evidences of a sane and careful consideration of the factors bearing upon the subject and should be adopted if some one else won't run the exposition another term.

 S showing how serpents like angels may be housed unawares we have been cherishing a plant with fern-like foliage that came up in soil from the east and really had acquired quite an affection for it, then one day we saw its

picture in a book and underneath it said "wormwood extrema devilis" or something like that. This plant is responsible for fifty per cent of the hay fever in the eastern states. Need we say that the place where it grew knew it no more within five seconds of reading this information.

Note the Association Meeting Dates and Places on Page 14

# Begonias in Our Lath Houses

By Mrs. Frank Waite

**I**N our lath house is a charming new begonia. Did I say new? Well, at least it is new to me and apparently to everyone of the begonia enthusiasts who have seen it. It is not a gorgeous plant or flower, but I think its attractiveness is mainly in its delicacy and its dissimilarity to other begonias. I would like to call this dainty new comer the Fairy begonia, but I cannot take liberties with it, I suppose, as it has been duly named by scientists. Its name is Martiana, and it is a species, in other words, a natural begonia, not a hybrid or a cross from other plants. It came from Mexico, and is particularly interesting to those of us who care to hybridize and cross different plants of this family.

Martiana is one of the few species of begonias that are tuberous, or semi-tuberous, and said to be evergreen, but the latter claim remains to be proven. Our plant is as yet only about two feet high, and has but one stalk, which is light green, bearing round semi-peltate leaves near the base of the plant, but very curiously changing the style of its foliage on nearing the top of the plant. Here the leaves are pointed, and show no resemblance to the peltate form whatever. The blossoms are of exquisite delicacy in color, and are of a rose pink and not a salmon pink. It is a single four-petaled flower, of good size, and borne in the axils of the leaves, resembling very much a miniature hollyhock or the wild mallow of the hills and canyons in and about San Diego.

Another peculiarity of the begonia Martiana is its habit of reproducing itself in the way of small bulblets in the axils of the leaves after the blossom has fallen away. The little bulblets are a waxy light green, just the color of the stem, and they are of such tiny growth that at first, even to the keen observer, will pass unnoticed without the help of a good magnifying glass. By the way a good magnifying glass in a lath house is one of the "must haves" if one wants to really enjoy the mysteries and loveliness of many of the plants.

Evansiana, the hardy semi-tuberous begonia, has the same habit of reproduction, but is unlike Martiana in other ways. The former begonia has green leaves with markedly red veins, which on being placed in a very strong light with some sunshine changes to deep red the under side of its foliage. The base of the leaf (the sinus) is also red, much like the new begonia, Mrs. Wm. Kimball, just introduced by Storrs & Harrison. The red

also shows in the main stem, at all joints, and in the axils of the leaves. The blossoms of Evansiana are of the same pleasing shade of pink as the blossoms of Martiana, blooming in panicles and are fine for cutting. The little bulblets are not green like those of Martiana, but are dark red and green.

I remember very well when Mrs. Theodosia B. Shepherd introduced this charming begonia, Martiana, in her catalogue, probably fifteen years ago, and I also remember that I was never fortunate enough to get it, although I received from this same source many other begonias of merit which this true flower lover hybridized and crossed and brought to perfection at "Ventura-by-the Sea."

Mrs. Shepherd's begonia Incarnata Californica, is now masquerading in distant lands under the name of Incarnata Grandiflora. Apparently it wandered far from home and falling into the hands of an appreciative begonia culturist, who noted its superiority to the older begonia Incarnata, and not knowing its Southern California origin, named it Incarnata Grandiflora, as the blossom is larger in this newer variety than in that of the old Incarnata. Mrs. Shepherd did a great thing for begonias, and I hope some day to gather her begonias together, not only in our lath house, but also in black and white, and to label distinctly each begonia she originated or improved. I think it due to the memory of one who "did things" quite worth while, and which was also to the credit of California.

Some one has said "he has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche, and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem or a rescued soul." Certainly Mrs. Shepherd's success is unquestioned by all who know of the great floral work she accomplished in the face of many obstacles.

By the way, Incarnata is one of the pretty dainty begonias, and now is the time to give it special care, as it is a winter bloomer. Its style of growth is such that it can be used effectively for vases and for cut flower work. The plant grows erect, the main stem having many branches, and the stems and leaves are a beautiful light green. In a well grown plant the leaves are from two and a half to three inches long. In shape the leaves are lanceolate or long and narrow, with a toothed



margin. The flowers are a beautiful shade of light rose pink and grow in panicles, each panicle being a small bouquet in itself. A well grown plant is a beautiful combination of light green foliage and pale pink blossoms. With me this plant always grows shapely and never "leggy". It wants complete shade in the lath house, as the foliage is of a silky texture, like that of Clementina and Child's Luxuriant, and is easily blemished by the sun. It grows from two to three feet in height, at least such is my experience with it. If, by chance, any of the readers of California Garden have a begonia bearing the name of Aucubifolia, Insignis or Martiana, (the last named is not to be confused with the Martiana described earlier) just rechristen it Incarnata, if you want Incarnata, for all these names stand for one and the same begonia, so in looking over catalogue lists for new acquisitions to your begonia collection do not become excited over these names, if you already possess begonia Incarnata. So many names for one plant is confusing to say the least.

That good begonia *Verschafeldtii* is such a general favorite that I presume all begonia culturists are looking forward to its wealth of bloom by giving it special attention now. It is a begonia of strong constitution and can therefore still be treated to weak liquid fertilizer without bad results. The bad results from fertilizer would come with the cooler days and nights because the begonias in our lath houses and pergolas do not make a strong, rapid growth after the cooler weather sets in, and the fertilizer would force it into growth beyond its endurance.

Begonia *Verschafeldtii*, or *Verschafeldtiana*, as it is sometimes called, is a child of the two good begonias *Manicata* and the very tropical looking begonia *Carolinafolia*. The latter invariably calls forth a remark from the Doubting Thomases something like this, "That a begonia? Oh no, it doesn't look like a begonia." And indeed he is right about it, as *Carolinafolia* is in a class all by itself as to its general appearance. Both of these progenitors of *Verschafeldtii* are from Mexico.

## *Dahlia Favorites*



LOS ANGELES has just held a dahlia show and San Francisco had theirs the beginning of September, at which 100,000 blooms of 8,000 varieties were shown (the figures are taken from the Florists' Exchange) and all over the east the same form of activity prevails, though it is stated that in certain sections the dahlias were frosted before they bloomed.

Have just discovered that in another issue the San Francisco exhibit is reduced to 25,000 blooms which does not so hopelessly out-class us.

There is nothing to add to prior advice about dahlias except that they should not be dug for quite a time yet. If they must be moved leave on a couple of feet of stem and bury the tubers again at once.

Lest it should be lost the following list of dahlias resulting by a voting contest among 30 experts instituted by the Florists' Exchange last year is given. This to satisfy those folks who collect lists as some people do postmarks. It should be remarked that the variety persistently advocated by this magazine heads them all:

Votes 14, *Geisha*; 12, *Kalif*; 11, *Hortulanus Viet*; 10, *Countess of Lonsdale*; 9, *Souvenir de Gustav Douzon*, and *Wodah*; 8, *Delice*; 7, *Marguerite Bouchon*, *Perle de Lyon*, *Rev. T. W. Jamieson*, and *W. W. Rawson*; 6, *A. D.*

*Livoni*, Mrs. Roosevelt, and Wolfgang von Goethe; 5, F. W. Fellowes, *Golden Gate*, John Riding, *Le Grand Manitou*, and *Rene Cayeux*; 4, *Etendard de Lyon*, *Golden West*, *Lawine*, *Souvenir de Chabanne*, and *Thuringa*; 3, *Arabella*, *Dorothy Peacock*, *Dreer's White*, D. M. Moore, *Jack Rose*, *Jeanne Charmet*, *Caleb Powers*, *Master Carl*, *Minnie McCullough*, and *Sylvia*; 3, *Aurora Auguste Nonin*, *Breezelawn*, *Chas. Clayton*, *Duchess of Brunswick*, Dr. Peary, *Mondschiebe*, Mrs. Nath, *Slocombe*, *Niebelungenort*, *Miss Wilmott*, Mrs. Kentwell, Prof. Mansfield, *Queen Esther*, *Robt. Broomfield*, T. G. Baker, *Walgure*, *Hampton Court*, *Rheingonig*, and *Yellow Colosse*.

### *Rosa Geniiliana*

Miss Ellen Willmott, a famous English horticulturist of international renown, in her monumental book (*Genus Rosa* II, 513, 1914) describes it thus: "This plant in its way is, perhaps, the most beautiful rose yet introduced. Its cascades of pure white flowers are borne in boundless profusion, and unless damaged by storms will continue in bloom for nearly two months. It should be given an isolated position, where it can be left to develop, and where its beauty can be seen to best advantage. It forms fine bushes of dense growth, and so far has not been attacked by mildew or fly."—"Garden Magazine."

# Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD



WEEK ago I flew through our Balboa Park going up the East side, where natural conditions still for the most part, and truly the advocate of such has a difficulty to keep himself in countenance as he rides the rim of that big canyon now dry as dust and scarred with trails along which soil has been raped or other material dumped. The back view of the Exposition tops the desolate slope and completes the back yard effect and yet it does not take much of a visionary to see this section a perfect marvel and perhaps the location of a truly wonderful display of native flowers and shrubs. The canyon with its quite considerable bottom and delightfully broken sides presents infinite possibilities, but our climatology and water situation plainly indicate that it must be a dry farming project. Our native shrubbery, especially the evergreen kinds, should clothe the slopes and the bottom should be planted to our native wild flowers. Of course there will be times in the year when a brown rest will come over the scene, but there is a piquancy to a periodic burst of display that the continual performance never acquires, and our native stuff near the coast in San Diego is apt to be at its best when the stranger is most numerous within our gates. It is further plain that all planting and development should be done with a view to its effect from the canyon rim drives.

Circling the Northern end I came down the western strip where most of the improvement has very properly been done. If I may indulge in a suggestion for future work I would say that now a conscious effort should be made to amalgamate that highly and beautifully developed strip with the rest of the Park and especially the canyon. I am not overly enthusiastic over the drives leading down into the canyon. They are too much like chutes and present from the bridge hard lines, and the very fact of a bridge speaks of an obstacle to be spanned. There is a charming piece that will perhaps best illustrate my idea and that is the lawn with eastern slope directly in front of the deer paddock and which gives a wide open view across to the California building. I shall like it better when the shrubbery below that building has been thinned and grows, thereby acquiring a more indigenous look and I would like a blaze of California poppies on the little unimproved hill directly beyond the paddocks. I could sit for hours on that sward gazing into the east as I have done in the motionless company of the big elk under a pepper tree and

the goat astride his house. Hour after hour these two look deeply into the distance and I suspect their thoughts would be very well worthwhile if we could get at them. Did they thus like statues watch the erection of the California building and the bridge and in the days of their ugliness when scaffolding hid their lines, say what offense is this that comes between us and the rising sun and now when at peep-o'-day that orb gilds their completed beauty with gold, do they enjoy the wondrous lines and magnificent proportion? Perhaps they only sense that way off in the East every day they look for the coming of the lifegiver. Go to that lawn, take your lunch and relaxed and careless of everyday problems for the nonce, you too look to the east and see if you can feel the attraction that the elk and goat evidently sense.

I dropped in at the rose garden and I confess with shame for the first time met its tutelary genius, Mr. Slack. I had almost said, in fact tried to say just "Slack," as I find myself ever leaning more to the Democratic in life, but could not do it after being with him among his roses, I felt too deferential. From what he said I gather that other and false Early Birds taking advantage of my inexcusable delay have been thrust upon him, for he remarked sotto voice something about another one of them. Now I come to reflect I don't think Mr. Slack said much, though I know he looked volumes and his roses shouted. Could it have been that being rather slow of speech he had no chance? Anyway I am going to town in the morning and strike some one to whom I can talk chicken. By noon I should be so exhausted that if I then go up to the rose garden I shall have to listen. I want to know how roses are produced at this time of year; all about the different varieties, etc., and if Rosarian Slack cannot answer my questions he has been remarkably fortunate in his guesses. Seemingly I am in a critical mood for I want things in that rose garden that are not there, such as rose arches, rose hedges and seats upon which I can sit as evening falls and releases all those wonderful sweet essences that await its coming. To enjoy beauty one must keep the eyes open, but the full delight of sweet odors can be sensed in perfect relaxation with closed eyes. If I were a fairy I would live near that rose garden, perhaps in the shrubbery under the bridge, and I would fast all day and come at night to dine upon the divine soul of General McArthur.

I don't want to close without paying my re-



spects to the zinnias that in thousands make gay the pathways. I mean those big, yellow, orange and red fellows, not the magenta, for that color will make me think of death and worms and epitaphs. Let no man think in my criticisms or suggestions I have one modicum of dissatisfaction with the Park and those who rule its destiny. As has happened before it has again become a political football,

sorrowfully do I so record, but the work accomplished in the last few years is little short of marvellous, especially under the peculiar conditions. I hope that increasingly our citizens will take an interest in their park, realize it is theirs, if they miss anything in it ask to have it installed and eventually remove its administration from out the uncertain realms of politics.

## The Lath House

By ALFRED D. ROBINSON

**T**HE premature rain of late September came as a demonstration of the necessity of preparing our lath houses for more of the same kind of thing. It searched out all the top-heavy growths that need staking and showed what will become of a tangle of low growth when heavy with water. It also showed that some genius should evolve a method of construction that will do away with the concentrated drip from the heavy beams. It is strongly urged that all unnecessary growth be removed and where small things are overshadowed they must be given room. Of late years we have grown considerable lobelia in our lath houses for borders and there it trails more than outside. It now becomes a danger point unduly conserving moisture and rotting itself and causing rot. If you have any, clear it away from other growths.

Tuberous begonias are about past. If in pots place the pots on their side under benches and allow the tops to dry away; don't break them off as the tuber bleeds. If they are in the ground water can be withheld so that the tops mature, the bulbs can then be dug and put away in sand where they will be dry and accessible for frequent inspection to see they are all right. Under too dry and hot conditions they shrivel up; the reverse makes them rot. If dug up don't remove the dirt that sticks with the roots or you are apt to injure the skin of the tuber quite tender at this stage.

If you have had any crotons in your lath house you had better take them up for wintering in a glass house or warm window as they will seldom if ever pass this season under lath.

Take cuttings of any coleus you wish to have next year and prepare to carry them through under glass as they are very apt to die in lath houses. The very large specimens are more than one year old and are thus carried over the winter season. These big plants

have smaller leaves and often lack the brilliant color of younger plants.

For goodness sake don't get the idea that this rain wetted up your stuff in boxes, pots or baskets, for a few hours' hot sun will show you differently. In most cases the top growth prevents any appreciable moisture reaching the soil in the receptacle even with heavy downpours. This is a danger in the lath house in winter time and one of the fruitful sources of failure with potted ferns in particular.

One plant that should be seen in quantities in our lath houses in winter is the baby primrose, *primula malacoides*. It is of the easiest culture and blooms cheerfully over a long period, either in the ground, pot or hanging basket. This is the one the bloom stalk of which is several storied; having made one whorl of blossoms it continues its stalk through the middle and does it again until seven times seven almost. It also, under favorable conditions which are merely some shade and moisture, seeds itself profusely.

*Crinum Moorei* is now at its best under lath, having long stalks and very large blossoms.

Sad as it sounds we must be preparing to vacate the lath house for a season. Those comfortably cushioned chairs and other wettable signs of occupancy will have to get under cover and the cement is getting cold to thin soled feet. What have you learned for next year?

### A USE FOR BROKEN GLASS

Never throw away broken bits of glass. Pound them into fragments, keeping the eyes shut, and strew in rings, round Lettuces, Marrows, or any plants that snails and slugs attack. Any pot plant stood out in a saucer half full of powdered glass, will be safe from insects that crawl. If a sufficient quantity of glass is at command put a line round garden frames.—M. H. Gardener, England.



# Monthly Excursion Through Exposition Grounds



By G. R. GORTON



HERE is a spot east of the Canadian Building which has probably seemed at times to the exposition-weary visitors to be the quintessence of restfulness. There are benches ranged around an irregularly shaped open space, and high green walls shut out the less peaceful parts of the world. Under the Acacias, Pittosporums, Eucalyptus, Casuarinas, etc., which form this leafy wall are deep, dark, cool recesses, carpeted with Vinca; ferns nestle in its protecting shade, and the airy maidenhair vine clammers up and around its supporting branches. The effect is somewhat that of a forest under intensive cultivation, or a sort of Philo system for plants, a system which makes possible empty-steen trees, shrubs, etc., on a city lot, forming a complete forest in miniature. Two vases guard the entrance to this bower of greenery, which are themselves hung with a dainty tracery of Vinca, which relieves the hard lines and angles of the concrete bases, and renders the whole more pleasing.

Outside, and across the path, Fuchsia gracilis has become suddenly ambitious, in a ladylike way, and gently but firmly is forcing its way upwards through the Acacias which tower above it. It has already traveled upwards of eight feet, and is still going strong. The mass of flowers displayed against the background of green foliage of its more sombre neighbors is very effective.

Along the edge of the canyon southeast of the Canadian Building, Duranta, Grevillea thelemanniana, and Tecoma capensis are at their best, especially the first mentioned, which is decked with masses of blue flowers, supplemented by occasional clusters of golden berries. The Tecomas extend down nearly to the bottom of the canyon, and form the brightest feature of the landscape as viewed from the balustrade between the Canadian and Foreign Arts Buildings.

The Botanical Building invites inspection from every one who has not visited there within a month, and promises to show much of interest. At two of the corners in the center portion of the lath house masses of

Donatello Chrysanthemums greet and charm the eye. Adjoining one of these groups—east of the center section—is a specimen of Pleroma, Lasiandra, or Tillandsia,—call it what you will, it won't smell anyway. Which-ever alias you prefer, you will be correct, as it is largely a matter of taste. Its particular virtue consists of clusters of gorgeously purple flowers, which recommend it as deserving of more general planting. There are a number of particularly choice specimens of Coleus in both the lath house and the conservatory, especially those in the latter building, grouped a few steps inside the door.

It is the humble opinion of ye scribe that it is one of the landscape lessons not to despise the common, better known, even plebeian plants, just because they are so familiar—if they furnish the desired effect. This is illustrated in part by the large part which the single red geranium has played in the beautification of the Exposition grounds, and the same is true of a certain single pink geranium, of the ivy reds and pinks, of some of the uses which have been made of the humble Mesembryanthemum, and of many other very ornamental albeit common subjects. This dissertation is not intended to favor going to the other extreme and condemning untried plants solely because they are new or rare—that would be unprogressive. So, by way of a sort of antidote to the first preaching, the attention of those interested is directed to the group of plants north of the exposition fire station. Most of the material in this planting was supplied from the Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, which specializes on plants which no one ever saw before, and incidentally does some valuable missionary work in introducing the plant-loving public to some very desirable subjects for planting. There are in this group several interesting Cupheas, several odd Bamboos, a Buddleia or two, a Lasiandra (in flower), and many other well known genera are represented by species which are not so well known, but some of which appear, at least at first blush, to be well worth growing.

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Are you *sure* that you have discovered all of the beautiful and interesting spots at our Exposition?



# San Diego Co. Trees and Shrubs

By GUY C. FLEMING



N writing of the trees and shrubs of San Diego County, I believe it best to follow a given route from coast to desert. By so doing those who are not familiar with certain species may be able to identify the tree or shrub by location.

Let me first introduce you to some of the shrubs seen about the park, in nearby canyons, and on "undeveloped property". Probably one of the most common is the "Indian" or "tree tobacco", and it is a real tobacco, the correct name being *Nicotiana glauca*. The dust-like seeds germinate readily in any of our varied soils, and the slender trees with their blue-green leaves and tubular yellow flowers, which are in evidence most of the year, have made picturesque many an otherwise unsightly spot.

Another shrub with a story is the elder, of which we have two varieties in this county. The one near the coast is not much more than a tree, and its berries are dry and tasteless; the other found in the mountains becomes a real tree in size and produces berries that are very attractive to birds and animals. And man has found that elderberry pie is a very good second to blueberry pie. There is a legend that the Cross was made from the elder tree. In Europe it is sometimes called "hour tree".

"Bour tree, bour tree, crooked rung,

Never straight and never strong,

Ever bush and never tree,

Since our Lord was nailed on thee."

All, I think, know the California holly, whose red berries are always in demand for Christmas decorations. Outside of having red berries there is no resemblance to holly. But there is a neighboring shrub that is very holly-like. It is the Catalina cherry, called by botanists, *Prunus ilicifolia*, the specific name meaning holly-leaved. This shrub should be worth while as an ornamental, for its spiny glossy-green foliage is decorative the year through.

We find fine members of the sumac family between the coast and the summit of the mountains. One, the "lemonade berry" (*Rhus integrifolia*) becomes quite a tree in size. There are a number at the Stephens place, the corner of Seventh and A streets, Coronado, one of which is fully eight inches in diameter and whose branches have a spread of thirty feet. It has been trained as an arbor. Another tree not quite as large forms the main structure of the small lath garden.

The berries of this variety are flat and

circular with sticky pulp, which is covered with crimson down. They are very tart, a few berries in a cup of water make a very good substitute for lemonade. Then we have the "California sumac" (*Rhus laurina*) with red twigs and leaf and flower stems. The leaves are lanced shape, rather folded and curve downward. During June and July it is beautiful with dense clusters of small greenish-white flowers.

Out about the Jamul ranch, and all through the back country, we will find another variety, *Rhus ovata*, that is very similar in general appearance as *laurina*, except that the leaves are broader, less folded, and are rather glossy on the upper side. The berries have the same characteristic as *integrifolia*.

In the wooded valleys we find *Rhus trilobata*, or "squaw-bush," so-called because the stems were used by the Indian women in basket making. This sumac resembles very much the fifth member of the family, *Rhus diversiloba*, or "poison oak". There is some difference in their habit of growth, the poison oak being as a rule vine-like, and the leaves are somewhat different, those of *trilobata* being three lobed, sometimes with simple side leaflets, while the other is usually of three leaflets, which are three lobed. Both turn red in the fall. I'm none too sure which is which when I meet them as I happen to be immune to the poison.

Along the Sweetwater and other streams we see sycamore, cottonwood, willows, and great live oaks. Here and there are trees festooned with wild grape.

Along the Cottonwood grade at the foot of Tecate mountain and scattered along the north slope are a number of cypress, locally known as "Tecate cypress", which are probably Goven's cypress.

Some distance beyond Campo we will first see the *Adenostoma sparsifolium*, another form of the chamiso or greasewood that is so common on our mesas. This is truly a beautiful shrub, the reddish-brown stems and fine needle-like foliage, light green in color, make it very attractive, but in August, when every shrub is loaded with great clusters of creamy white flowers, the effect is wonderful.

In this "association" we see, too, the large form of *manzanita*; *Garrya Fremontii*, a gray-green shrub, with opposite leathery leaves, and of compact growths; *Artemisia tridentata*, a sage brush with silver-gray leaves, the end of each leaf divided as a trident; and here we see another form of the scrub oak, and numerous mountain oak.

Before reaching Jacumba we enter the

juniper belt. From there on to the desert nearly all the vegetation is new to us. And each shrub is a surprise, for in this region of sand, barren rocks, and at times almost unbearable heat, one would hardly expect to see such fresh green foliage, and bright colored flowers and fruit. The dark green of the junipers is set off by the clusters of silver-hued berries, and in many cases color is added by masses of golden-green mistletoe, of which this tree is a host. One very thorny shrub, with glossy light green leaves, is decorated with small bright-yellow lemon-like fruits; this may be a member of the cherry and plum family, the fruit is all seed and skin. Next to it you may see another shrub with leaves similar to our feathery-leaved acacias, and with hooked thorn-like cat-claws. It is called "Cat-claw acacia", and is one of our truly native acacias, *Acacia Gregii*. Here, too, is the creosote bush, *Larrea Mexicana*. It has

pretty yellow flowers, and fuzzy white seed balls. The stems are gray with black bands, the leaves small and glossy and when crushed they give off an odor of creosote.

Along the washes we will likely find the desert willow. But we know it can't be a true willow. The leaves and branches are those of a willow, but who ever saw a willow with trumpet-like flowers of white with yellow throats, and with seed pods like a bignonia. It is botanically known as *Chilopsis linearis*, and does belong to the bignonia family and claims the catalpa as a first cousin.

Among the juniper and other shrubbery we see the tall shafts of *Yuccas* (Spanish bayonet) and agaves (the century plants) those of the former topped with a panicle of creamy-white, bell-shaped flowers, those of the latter branched, and each branch terminating in a cluster of upright flowers.

## A Talk on Bulbs

By Miss Mary Matthews

**S**OMEONE has asked "What is the best time to plant the various bulbs grown in our gardens." There is no fixed rule, but we ought to remember that bulbs are losing vitality all through their dormant period, the bloom being stored up in the dormant bulb, and if kept out of the ground too long they will fail or the blooms will be of poor quality. Some even fail to sprout, life being at its lowest ebb they fail to rally. Just at this time with the ground dry and hard as it is, if we dig down where the early blooming bulbs are planted we will find that they are already making root growth, thus indicating that they need early planting. Another very important point is always buy the best quality of bulb and in separate colors if possible, mixed bulbs are usually what are left after the best have been picked out. You have to spend just as much time and labor on a poor bulb as a good one but do not get an equal reward for your pains. As said last month, most bulbs like rich food if properly given. Though the flower is already within, the size and beauty of it depends largely on the nutriment given. Bone meal is the safest fertilizer to use and should be put on freely. Applications of manure water when the bulb is in bud often give good results.

There are numerous subjects in the bulbous line classed elsewhere as tender or difficult to grow that succeed with us with but

little extra pains. Among those of the *Amaryllis* family are *Brunsvigia* from South Africa with numbers of large brick-red flowers. This requires heat and sunlight; *Chlidanthus*, really a fellow *amaryllis*, *Sprekelia formosissima*, the Lily of the Aztecs from Mexico, dark velvety red and very beautiful. The *crinums* in sorts. The *Cyrtanthus* from South Africa—the flowers are in an umbel and pendulous—bright red and green tipped in some, in others pure white. These make a fine early breakfast food for slugs, as I know to my sorrow. The *Haemanthus* or blood flower; another beauty is *Griffinia* or blue *amaryllis* with large, hairy leaves not unlike in shape to those of the *Funkia* or plantain lily—then there are numerous subjects belonging to the lily and also the iris family that are little known, in fact if we once begin to explore the bulb family we can go on indefinitely and always find something to admire and that you will want to possess.

This is a good month to set perennials that have been growing in boxes, also divide old clumps. Keep your marigolds, zinnias, cosmos, etc., well watered and all dead blooms cut off.

Your little pansy plants ought to be coming right along now. Do not let them flag for lack of water or cultivation. Plant another lot of sweetpeas for early spring blooms.

Put in *gladiolus* for succession in bloom,



continuing from now on every ten days or two weeks.

In regards to the query in last month's magazine about *Astilbe Davidii*, this is one of Mr. Wilson's introductions from China and he says "The astilbes are old, reliable plants for pot forcing for winter bloom. Their recently discovered relatives, *Astilbe Davidii* and *Grandis*, are not useful for this purpose, but for the moist border and the waterside they possess higher claims than our old friends. David's *Astilbe* was the first of the two known and caused quite a sensation when exhibited. The flowers are of a peculiar

shade of red and the anthers are blue. The flowering stems are six feet tall with the flowers densely crowded on a branched panicle having lateral branches two to two and a half feet long. Partial shade is best as the flowers bleach in the sun. *Astilbe Grandis* is similar in habits and vigor of growth but has pure white flowers. These astilbes are easily propagated by division of the root stock and can be raised from seed without difficulty and ought to be a valuable addition to the herbaceous border. Whether they will succeed in San Diego or not is a question.

## The October Garden

By Walter Birch



CTOBER is a capital month to make thorough preparations for the winter garden. First furrow out your ground and run water slowly in the furrows long enough to get your ground thoroughly soaked to a good depth, at least two or three feet. When surface is dry enough to do so rake over so as to form a light mulch which prevents evaporation. Get some well rotted manure, either stable or cow manure and spread over the surface at least three or four inches thick. As soon as your ground is dry enough so that it separates and breaks up easily, spade it over thoroughly to a depth of one foot. You can then lay it off in plots for your various kinds of seeds and plants, not forgetting to plan it so that it will be easy to run the water where it will do the most good, as you may want to irrigate by furrows as well as by sprinkling. If your land is heavy and clayey you will find that by adding lime as well as manure it will sweeten the ground and make easier to work.

In the vegetable garden there are a number of seeds and plants that can now be used to advantage. Canadian Wonder, Broad Windsor and Six-weeks Beans can all be planted and Stratagem, Yorkshire Hero and Admiral Peas. The latter is a somewhat new pea in this locality and has proven a great success further north. It is like the Stratagem but a heavier producer and longer bearer and is greatly sought after by the market gardener. It is a good plan to dust a little lime and sulphur in the furrows when planting your peas. The lime helps the peas and the sulphur discourages mildew. In small seeds plant turnips, lettuce, radish, prickly spinach, parsnips, etc., that you may have a good variety of vegetables for your table during

the winter. You can also plant a few potatoes and have new potatoes for Xmas.

In the flower garden, October is bulb month, and in spite of war conditions in Europe we shall have heavier shipments of Dutch bulbs than usual.

With proper preparation of your ground there is nothing more satisfactory than a nice selection of bulbs to brighten up the garden during the winter and spring, the want of success being principally attributable to lack of care in preparing the ground for bulbs.

Most bulbs like a cool moist condition and will not thrive in a hole dug out with a jack knife four or five inches deep in heavy clay soil. If your soil is of that nature it will help a lot to work in sand, leaf mold and well-rotted manure, having your ground thoroughly worked up. A little bone meal or complete fertilizer mixed in the soil around the bulb helps out, especially if you cannot get the manure, but if you can get this and dig it in as directed, and when your bulbs are planted cover the ground completely with a good mulch of the manure and water on top of this, you will find your ground retains the moisture necessary for the growth of your bulbs, and the manure will help to keep it cool as well as feeding the plants as they grow. Hyacinths and Narcissus should be covered from 4 to 5 inches when planting and planted 8 to 10 inches apart. Iris, Jonquils, Tulips, etc., about 7 to 8 inches apart and Ranunculus and the smaller bulbs 5 to 6 inches apart and about 2 inches deep.

Why don't you give us a chance to help solve some of your garden problems?

# The Rose and the Man

By A. D. ROBINSON



LOVE an enthusiast, one that gives all that is in him to the object of his admiration. This may sound like the beginning of a real romance and perhaps it is for it is the preface or introduction to Fred Howard and his rose, Los Angeles. Fred Howard called upon me last week at Rosecroft and having been for a few minutes without a victim to whom I could talk dahlias and particularly the Rosecroft varieties, I welcomed him with open mouth and displayed my pets with that air that demands praise or death. Hitherto I have found Frederick equal to the occasion. He has been able to supply a variety of entirely satisfactory adjectives, but this time when I called his attention to really good things he was strangely distraught and kept sidling off to some quite insignificant rose blooms. Finally he could stand it no longer and blurted out, "Have you seen our new rose, Los Angeles?" The secret was out, he had a baby of his own. Now strange to say I never had and said so. Imagine the situation. Frederick had found a person keenly interested in roses who had never seen his rose. Well I surrendered at once and in the next hour heard more good rose points than I thought the whole prodigious family possessed and also was convinced that if ever I want an eulogy written I shall try and get Fred Howard to do it. Almost by main force I resisted being at once rushed to the Park to see Los Angeles, but promised to do so the next day. Here comes the curious part of the story. I did go to town the next morning and was on a corner debating whether I should go to the Park rose garden just to see how well qualified Howard was to sell real estate, when in a high power motor the very man slowly swung round it and on seeing me stopped. I have always been good in an emergency—with my tongue—so I said I was just going up to see your rose. "Get in," he answered, "and I will take you up." Of course I had to do it and found three other captives of his bow and spear, among them the Los Angeles Park Superintendent, but not one of the three existed then except as devotees at the shrine of Fred Howard's wonderful rose. Not being quite subjugated I tried without avail to introduce other garden topics, but it was hopeless. If I asked how the season had been for dahlias in Los Angeles the answer came, "Fred's new rose," etc., etc.

I entered the rose garden with the impression that that Los Angeles rose was a cross between a California poppy and a giant bami-

boo, with a sauce of pittosporum mixed with nasturtium to obtain good foliage and ever-blooming quality.

As we approached the bed from one side Mr. Slack came towards us from the other and submitted to a cross examination for the plaintiff that can be summed up in his final remark, "As far as I can see the rose has no faults." Then the originator proceeded to demonstrate by specimen, many things that a rose should have and which Los Angeles possesses. Sometimes with extraordinary violence, almost brutal, he took a full bloom flower and seizing it by the stem jerked it with a full armed swing as I do my registering thermometer when I have lost the magnet. Not a petal moved and at the second assault the stem came away leaving the petals disarranged but stuck like limpets to a rock. While Fred thus playfully toyed with one bloom the Los Angeles Parkist was rolling petals of another between his finger and thumb muttering something about tough as leather or parchment. There were other stunts equally bewildering, but I had really surrendered at the first look of the bed. The color is like Lyon as is the shape, though I think the bud is longer, but the growth is much more vigorous. Huge canes had come on little plants put out in March and I am not sure but I fancy the sponsor said its only trouble was the necessity to pick the blooms early in the morning before they grew out of reach.

Our time was limited so we could not wait while Fred made asparagus of the young shoots, but I want him to know now if he did not then, that I unhesitatingly pronounce his Los Angeles rose as the best of its color and class I have seen, particularly as it has long been my contention that Southern California must produce its own varieties here to get them fully adapted to our conditions.

## Who Was the Man?

A gentleman came into the Garden office within a month and paid \$3.00 to a little girl, who happened to be alone there at the time. She receipted the bill which he brought with him, but failed to get his name, so we have his \$3.00 but he hasn't credit on our books. The one who paid under these circumstances will no doubt remember the occurrence, and we would like him to drop us a card that we may give proper credit.



## Watchful Waiting

Again there is talk of improving the foot of Broadway with palms and other green things of the fields, in order that the right kind of an impression may be made upon the traveler who comes by way of the big boats. The Mayor and Councilmen seem to almost agree upon the project and those who have long hoped for such a move are busily engaged in holding their breaths.

If we could only make sure that we

wouldn't wake up some morning and find that a franchise had been granted on some of that made ground on the water front, at \$12 per year, our sleep would be much more tranquil.

Such an inheritance as this city has, and such a wonderful opportunity to give us a world-wide reputation as a city of beauty and comfort, should make us all guardians of that bit of water-front.

## Grow the Right Variety of Cotton

The Department of Agriculture, on April 9, 1914, and again on March 2, 1915, issued warnings to farmers of the Southwest against planting varieties of cotton that usually produce a staple of less than seven-eighths inch in length, especially such varieties as are said to produce half seed and half lint. The department wishes to reiterate these warnings for the benefit of the entire cotton belt. The producers of cotton, for their own welfare, should exercise judicious care in the selection of planting seed.

The following reasons are given for warning cotton growers against planting any variety that usually produces a staple of less than seven-eighths inch in length:

1. Cotton of less than seven-eighths inch staple is of approximately the same spinning value as the bulk of the cotton of India. On economic principles the American product should be maintained on a higher level of intrinsic worth than that of India in order that the American crop may not be forced to compete in the markets of the world with the cotton of India.

2. Cotton of less than seven-eighths inch staple is inferior to the average American quality and localities that produce such cotton in appreciable quantities soon establish reputations for an inferior product. The price of all cotton in such markets will suffer on account of the poor reputation of the market.

3. Competent cotton buyers discriminate against extremely short staple whenever such cotton is discovered. They should be equally

careful to discriminate in favor of cotton of good staple. The farmer who produces inferior cotton is likely to find that his product brings a price materially lower than quotations would indicate as its true value. The seller commonly looks upon such discrimination as a penalty, while the buyer considers that he is paying the full value for an inferior commodity.

4. Under the common practice of the cotton trade, the price of spot cotton is governed largely by future quotations. In order that future quotations might more accurately reflect the value of spot cotton. Congress, in the United States cotton-futures act, provided a form of contract, exempt from the tax imposed by the act, on which cotton of extremely low grade or which is less than seven-eighths inch in length of staple is not deliverable. This action by Congress was intended primarily for the benefit of producers. One of its results was the adoption by the New York and New Orleans exchanges of the exempted form of future contract, so that cotton of less than seven-eighths inch in length of staple can not be delivered thereon. This legislation in no way affects any sale of spot cotton.

5. As the variety of seed planted is the primary factor in determining length of staple, and as there are early-maturing prolific varieties which produce a staple of at least an inch in length, no farmer or community is justified in planting an inferior variety or in expecting the full market price for a bebased article of commerce.

### Garden Advertiser Moves

Users of poultry supplies will please note that the Stiles Poultry Supply Co. has moved to a fine brick building at the corner of Seventh and G Streets.

By the way, we would like to suggest that

this firm carries an ad in the Garden because they want your business and also because they want to support such a worthy publication as California Garden. Let them know that you appreciate their appreciation by patronizing them.

## The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor  
G. T. Keene, Manager  
Office, 727 E St., San Diego, Cal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

## The San Diego Floral Association

Main Office, Point Loma, California

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## October Regular Meeting

October 17—(a) "Bulbs." (b) "Berry-bearing Plants and Shrubs." With Mrs. A. H. Sweet, 435 W. Spruce Street.

November 21—(a) "Trees." (b) "California Wildflowers." With Miss Alice Lee, 3564 Seventh Street.

## November Outdoor Meeting

November 7—Mrs. George Sturges, Ocean Boulevard, Coronado.

## At the September Meeting

The San Diego Floral Association held its Kew on the evening of September 19th. Pres. Kew on the evening of September 19th. Pres. Connell called the meeting to order and the minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Torrey Pines committee read a letter from Miss Ellen Scripps, owner of the largest portion of the Torrey Pines. She is heartily in sympathy with our movement to protect them and post educative signs in the grove, and gives us permission to go ahead with the work. The city likewise gives us permission to label trees within their limits.

Many have heretofore expressed themselves as much interested in the Pines, and now we are going to do something about it. It was moved and carried that Miss Scripps' letter be acknowledged embodying proper ap-

preciation of her co-operation in the work. Also a motion carried authorizing the committee to make all necessary arrangements for signs and labels, and to post them in Torrey Pines grove. Motion carried that committee be continued and enlarged to five members which are as follows, Messrs. Fleming, Waite, Mrs. Chandler, Messrs. Bradshaw and Sumner.

The committee on "Floral Association Home" was ordered to be continued awaiting further developments when it could act.

The subject of the evening was next in order. A very interesting discussion on Iris and kindred plants followed, Miss Matthews leading with pointed ideas as to best kinds.

Soils and Fertilizer was next taken up and Mr. Robinson told us some interesting experiments in irrigation. The meeting now adjourned and after spending a little while in Mrs. Kew's spacious garden we went home feeling well repaid with the evening's business.

R. W. Sumner, Sec'y.

### Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, etc., Required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912,

Of California Garden published monthly at Point Loma, California for October 1, 1916. State of California, County of San Diego—ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared Guy T. Keene, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is Business Manager of the California Garden and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are:

Publisher San Diego Floral Ass'n, San Diego, Calif.

Editor Alfred D. Robinson, Point Loma, Calif.

Business Manager Guy T. Keene, 727 E Street, San Diego, Calif.

2. That the owners are: San Diego Floral Assn., Stephen Connell, Pres., Union Bldg., San Diego.

Ralph Sumner, Secy., Mission Hills, San Diego.

Stock and bondholders. none.

GUY T. KEENE,

Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of Sept., 1916.

(Seal)

ROBERT A. WRIGHT

(My commission expires March 3, 1920.)



## To Talk Avocado



THE California Avocado Association will hold its semi-annual meeting at Hotel Maryland on October 31st. All sessions will be open to the public. It is planned to have a display of fruits on exhibition on Monday evening, the 30th, and morning and afternoon sessions will be held on Tuesday, the 31st. These meetings will give an excellent opportunity to San Diegans to become acquainted with an industry which is arousing widespread attention.

Growers, nurserymen and scientists will be in attendance. Dr. H. J. Webber, director of the Experiment Station at Riverside, and president of the Association, will preside.

Among the growers who are expected are C. P. Taft of Orange, one of the pioneers in avocado growing and for whom the famous "Taft" variety is named; Judge Charles Silent of Glendora, E. S. Thatcher of Nordhoff, and C. D. Adams of Upland, who have large plantings; W. A. Spinks of Duarte, who originated the "Spinks" and "Colorado" varieties. The nursery end will be well cared for by F. O. Popenoe of the West India Gardens Altadena, and T. U. Barber of Hart and Barber, Whittier.

University experts who have experimented on the avocado with reference to its food value will be in attendance. The local arrangements are in charge of Wm. H. Sallmon, vice-president of the San Diego Land and Fruit companies, from whom further information may be obtained.

## Takes Notice of Garden

The following relative to begonias was posted in the Public Library in answer to inquiries on the subject from patrons:

### BEGONIAS

See especially Bailey's Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture, Vol. 1, pp. 469-484; also pp. 57 and Nicholson's Illustrated Dictionary of Gardening.

716-84 Ravenscroft.—The Begonia.

716-60 Henderson—Handbook of Plants.

716 Robinson—English Flower Garden, p. 459.

716-98 Jekyll—Color scheme for Flower Garden, p. 90.

716 Blanchan—American Flower Garden, pp. 217, 273.

### THE LATH HOUSE

See California Garden, May, 1916, p. 13; June, 1916, p. 8; July, 1916, p. 7; Aug., 1916, p. 5; Sept., 1916, p. 4. See also California Garden June, 1916, p. 11, A Morning in the Frevert Lath House.

Mr. A. D. Robinson, Point Loma, is an authority on begonias, as is Mrs. F. D. Waite,

## A Puppy For Your Boy

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3021 Broadway. Their lath houses, as well as that of Mrs. Frevert, are well worth a visit.

Most profitable of all is attendance at the meetings of the Floral Association which meets at the houses of members on the third Tuesday of each month at 8 p. m., when everybody brings their questions and problems to be informally discussed by experts. All interested in horticulture are welcome whether members or not. There is also usually an outdoor afternoon meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, wherever invited by members who have interesting gardens.

Membership in the Floral Association is \$1.00 a year; subscription to the California Garden, is \$1.00; or the two for \$1.50.

## Farmer Boys Compete

Among the San Diego County boys who have won distinction in the recent agricultural contest, is Clayburn LaForce, of East San Diego. Readers of the Garden will remember that Clayburn is the lad who grew prize-winning chrysanthemums and roses and exhibited them at the shows a few years past, and it is pleasing to see that he is going ahead in things agricultural.

As a result of this contest seven boys were given a free trip to the Davis Agricultural School. The successful ones were, Earl Kunkler, Ramona; Denver Lamb, Fallbrook; Carl Woosley, Escondido; Dee Bruce, El Cajon; Louis Juch, Fallbrook; Clayburn LaForce, East San Diego; and Fred Pederman, National City. The last named boy also won the first prize of a trip to Washington, D. C., with all expenses paid. Farm Adviser Weinland accompanied the boys to Davis.

## A New Peach

A wild peach recently discovered in China by the department's plant explorer, and now brought to this country for the first time, is considered of great interest, although its fruit is not desirable. Investigation in its native habitat showed that the roots of this plant are not as susceptible as our native peach to alkali in the soil, while it will withstand cold and does not require much moisture. Experiments are under way, therefore, to determine the usefulness of the rootstock of this peach for grafting with different hardy American varieties. If success is achieved, the specialists believe that they can develop peach trees which will make possible the raising of peaches in the southwestern or alkaline sections, and at the same time offer possibilities of peach cultivation in many droughty and cold regions, and possibly even into portions of Iowa beyond the northern edge of the present peach region.

Estimates of the value of stable manure on the farm indicate that in eastern Pennsylvania the manure produced by one adult horse or cow nets the farmer on an average \$15.80 per year, while in southern Michigan the manure of one such animal nets the farmer \$8.22.

A survey of 30 farms in Lenawee County, Mich., indicates that the farmer of southern Michigan keeps a horse on an average 8.5 years and sells him for \$18.68 less than he cost. Similar studies conducted in eastern Pennsylvania indicate that the farmer of that district keeps a horse on an average of 12.1 years and sells him for \$29.34 less than he cost.

## It is to Crow!!!



We feel like the man who modestly slunk into the back seat and was exhorted to step up in front.

The daily press has whooped up our winnings in New York, thereby showing that it considers the climate and soil of San Diego had more to do with the win than we did. Nevertheless let it be here set down that at the State Fair, Syracuse, after a race with the strike lasting six days and nights, the Rosecroft Barred Rocks scored **SECOND COCK, SECOND AND THIRD COCKEREL, SECOND AND FOURTH PULLET AND SECOND PEN** also **BEST DISPLAY**. **WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?**

We are daily receiving letters from those who saw our birds in this far country and they say "We are astonished; you seem to have as good if not better birds than we have. Why do your fool people send good money back to us for our culls?" In reply we have written "Thanks, Damfino."

NOW do you want our three-months-old pullets at \$1 each till we have made room for those still younger?

## Poultry Show Coming

By the way, don't forget that San Diego is to have a sure enough chicken show on Nov. 4th. A real gent called Hawkins will give you all information from his office in the Maryland Hotel.

## Rosecroft Barred Rock Yards

Point Loma, California

Alfred D. Robinson, Propr.



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